
Canadian Academic Relations
with the
People's Republic of China
Since 1970

IDRC-TS

54^{re}

Volume 1: Findings and Recommendations

Martin Singer

50.6
3222



no 6
5617

Canadian Academic Relations with the People's Republic of China Since 1970

Volume 1: Findings and Recommendations

Martin Singer

Faculty of Arts and Science, Concordia University,
Montreal, Québec, Canada

This work was carried out with the aid of a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada. The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the views of the Centre.

Abstract

This report focuses on Canadian academic relations with the People's Republic of China since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1970. Relying on extensive interviews with Canadian and Chinese exchange participants and on government and university archival materials, it provides historical, statistical, and thematic analysis intended to facilitate our understanding of the current state and future directions of academic exchange activity with China. It also provides profiles of the China exchange activities of most Canadian universities and a series of recommendations for the future.

The report, published in two volumes, consists of three distinct but complementary parts. Volume 1 contains part I: "Findings and Recommendations," which provides a three-section analysis of Canadian academic relations with China. It focuses first on the experiences of Chinese academics in Canada and then on the experiences of Canadian academics in China. Both sections include a summary of statistics (based primarily on data banks compiled during the course of the study), summary of findings (based substantially on interviews with Canadian and Chinese exchange participants), and a series of recommendations. It concludes with an examination of and recommendations pertaining to Canadian federal and provincial government agencies and academic relations with China.

Volume 2 contains parts II and III. Part II, "China Profiles of Canadian Universities," provides an analysis of the China exchange activities of 29 Canadian universities. Each institutional profile begins with a statistical introduction, briefly describes the institutional setting of its China activities, summarizes the visits to its campus by Chinese academics in Canada, describes the Chinese experiences of its Canadian faculty in China and its Canadian students in China, and concludes with a summary of the history and status of agreements with Chinese institutions.

Part III, "Supplementary Materials," contains 61 appendices that provide a wealth of supporting material on Chinese academics in Canada, Canadian academics in China, agreements with Chinese institutions, and interviews in Canada, as well as a summary of recommendations.

Résumé

Le présent rapport porte sur les relations universitaires du Canada avec la République populaire de Chine depuis que ces deux pays ont noué des relations diplomatiques en 1970. Fondé sur des entrevues approfondies avec des Canadiens et des Chinois qui ont participé aux échanges ainsi que sur des archives gouvernementales et universitaires, ce rapport présente une analyse historique, statistique et thématique destinée à faciliter la compréhension de l'état actuel des échanges universitaires avec la Chine et des orientations qu'ils prendront. On y trouve également les grandes lignes des programmes d'échange de la plupart des universités canadiennes avec la Chine ainsi qu'une série de recommandations pour l'avenir.

Le présent rapport, en deux volumes, comprend trois parties distinctes mais complémentaires. Le volume 1 contient la Partie I, "Conclusions et recommandations", qui consiste en une analyse des relations universitaires du Canada avec la Chine présentée en trois sections. Les deux premières sections portent respectivement sur l'expérience des universitaires chinois au Canada et sur celle des universitaires canadiens en Chine. Chaque section comprend un sommaire des statistiques (tiré principalement des banques de données établies au cours de l'étude), un sommaire des conclusions (fondé en grande partie sur les entrevues tenues avec les Canadiens et les Chinois qui ont participé aux échanges) et une série de recommandations. La troisième section porte sur les

organismes fédéraux et provinciaux du Canada et les relations universitaires avec la Chine, et fait des recommandations.

Le volume 2 contient les parties II et III. La Partie II, "Échanges des universités canadiennes avec la Chine", est une analyse des échanges de 29 universités canadiennes avec ce pays. Le profil de chaque université, qui commence par une introduction statistique, comprend une brève description du cadre de ses échanges avec la Chine, un résumé du séjour des universitaires chinois au Canada, une description de l'expérience des professeurs canadiens en Chine et des étudiants canadiens en Chine et, en conclusion, un résumé de l'historique et de la nature des ententes avec les établissements chinois.

La Partie III, "Documents complémentaires", se compose de 61 annexes riches en renseignements sur les universitaires chinois au Canada, les universitaires canadiens en Chine, les ententes avec les établissements chinois et les entrevues au Canada, ainsi qu'un sommaire des recommandations.

Resumen

Este informe se centra en las relaciones académicas Canadienses con la República Popular China desde el establecimiento de relaciones diplomáticas entre los dos países en 1970. Con base en extensas entrevistas con los participantes Canadienses y Chinos del intercambio y en materiales de archivo oficial y universitario, el informe ofrece un análisis histórico, estadístico y temático que intenta facilitar nuestra comprensión del estado actual y los futuros rumbos del intercambio académico con China. Ofrece también perfiles del intercambio con China de la mayoría de universidades Canadienses y una serie de recomendaciones para el futuro.

El informe, en dos volúmenes, consta de tres partes distintas pero complementarias. El volumen 1 contiene la parte I: "Hallazgos y Recomendaciones", que trae un análisis en tres secciones sobre las relaciones académicas Canadienses con China. Se centra primero en las experiencias de los académicos Chinos en Canadá y luego en las de los académicos Canadienses en China. Ambas secciones incluyen un resumen de estadísticas (provenientes ante todo de los bancos de datos compilados durante el estudio), un resumen de los hallazgos (basado principalmente en entrevistas con participantes Canadienses y Chinos del intercambio), y una serie de recomendaciones. Concluye con un examen y recomendaciones relativas a los organismos oficiales Canadienses, federales y provinciales, y a las relaciones académicas con China.

El volumen 2 contiene las partes II y III, "Perfiles de la Experiencia China de las universidades Canadienses", que ofrece un análisis del intercambio de 29 universidades Canadienses con China. Cada perfil institucional comienza con una introducción estadística, describe brevemente el marco institucional de sus actividades en China, resume las visitas de los académicos Chinos a sus instalaciones en Canadá, reseña las experiencias de sus profesores y estudiantes en China y concluye con un resumen de la historia y el estado de los acuerdos con instituciones Chinas.

La parte III, "Materiales Suplementarios", contiene 61 apéndices de materiales sobre académicos Chinos en Canadá, académicos Canadienses en China, acuerdos con instituciones Chinas, entrevistas en Canadá, y un resumen de recomendaciones.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am grateful to many individuals for their support and generous assistance in the course of this research project. Foremost among them is James Mullin of the International Development Research Centre whose generous support, good advice and infinite patience provided constant encouragement. My colleagues in Montreal - Professors Paul Lin, Sam Noumoff and Charles LeBlanc - provided initial encouragement as did Michael Oliver, formerly Director of the International Development Office of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. Former Vice-Rector Academic Russell Breen and former Assistant Provost Sean McEvenue made it possible for me to complete most of the work on this project while I was Provost of the Faculty of Arts and Science at Concordia University. My hosts at Canadian universities facilitated my visits and I am grateful to them for their gracious hospitality. More than 600 Canadians and Chinese were very generous in consenting to be interviewed and I wish to thank them once again for their time and their candor. Research assistants Glen Ansell, Lorna Brown, Susan Champagne, David Garon, Stephen McGurk, Irene Puchalski and Claude Renaud provided valuable assistance at an important stage in the project. Technical assistance from David Foster and David Voyzard and secretarial assistance from Caroline Bennett-Roy, Deborah Ciarma, Patricia Rennie and Heather Walker were frequently beyond reasonable expectation. Administrative Assistant Kathleen O'Connell performed miracles (particularly on the word processor) and made the completion of this project possible. My children Daniel and Jennifer suffered many a lost vacation and weekend because of this report and I can only assure them that things will get better. I owe my greatest debt to my wife Loren Singer whose support and encouragement were my greatest strength.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xi
 <u>VOLUME 1</u> <u>PART I</u> FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
INTRODUCTION	2
CHINESE ACADEMICS IN CANADA	8
Summary of Statistics	8
Summary of Findings	13
Recommendations	24
CANADIAN ACADEMICS IN CHINA	30
Canadian Faculty in China	30
Summary of Statistics	30
Summary of Findings	31
Recommendations	36
Canadian Students in China	40
Canada/China Student Exchange	40
Other Academic Exchanges	47
Academic Tours	48
Recommendations	49
CANADIAN FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND ACADEMIC RELATIONS WITH CHINA	52
Canadian International Development Agency	52
Department of External Affairs	57
International Development Research Centre	59
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	62
Provincial Government Initiatives	65
Recommendations	66

VOLUME 2
PART II
CHINA PROFILES OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES

	PAGE
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA	69
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA	76
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY	97
CARLETON UNIVERSITY	100
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	104
DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY	109
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH	114
LAURENTIAN UNIVERSITY OF SUDBURY	119
UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL	121
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA	127
McGILL UNIVERSITY	131
McMASTER UNIVERSITY	146
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND	152
UNIVERSITÉ DE MONTRÉAL	154
UNIVERSITY OF NEW BRUNSWICK	162
UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA	165
UNIVERSITÉ DU QUÉBEC À MONTRÉAL	170
QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY AT KINGSTON	173
THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA	178
RYERSON POLYTECHNICAL INSTITUTE	186
SAINT MARY'S UNIVERSITY	190
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN	196
UNIVERSITÉ DE SHERBROOKE	201

	PAGE
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY	203
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO	209
UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA	232
UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO	237
THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO	242
YORK UNIVERSITY	247

PART III SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

CHINESE ACADEMICS IN CANADA

TABLES

Appendix 1:	Distribution Across Canada	254
Appendix 2:	Host Institutions in Canada	255
Appendix 3:	Distribution Among Canadian Universities	256
Appendix 4:	Fields of Study in Canada	258
Appendix 5:	Financial Sponsorship	260
Appendix 6:	Distribution by Sex	261
Appendix 7:	Place of Birth	262
Appendix 8:	Last Position Prior to Departure for Canada	264
Appendix 9:	Last Unit Prior to Departure for Canada	265
Appendix 10:	Last Residence Prior to Departure for Canada	266

CHARTS

Appendix 11:	Home Institutions: Colleges and Universities	268
Appendix 12:	Home Institutions: Research Institutes	275
Appendix 13:	Home Institutions: Hospitals	286
Appendix 14:	Home Institutions: Government	288
Appendix 15:	Home Institutions: Abbreviations for "Fields of Study in Canada"	291
Appendix 16:	Academic Delegations to Canada	292

	PAGE
GRAPHICS	
Appendix 17: Long-term Visitors: Distribution Across Canada	304
Appendix 18: Long-term Visitors: Host Institutions in Canada	305
Appendix 19: Long-term Visitors: Distribution by Type	306
Appendix 20: Long-term Visitors: Fields of Study in Canada	307
Appendix 21: Long-term Visitors: Financial Sponsorship	308
Appendix 22: Long-term Visitors: Distribution by Sex	309
Appendix 23: Long-term Visitors Place of Birth	310
Appendix 24: Long-term Visitors: Last Position in China	311
Appendix 25: Long-term Visitors: Last Unit in China	312
Appendix 26: Long-term Visitors: Last Residence in China	313
Appendix 27: Short-term Visitors: Distribution Across Canada	314
Appendix 28: Short-term Visitors: Host Institutions in Canada	315
Appendix 29: Short-term Visitors: Fields of Study in Canada	316
Appendix 30: Short-term Visitors Financial Sponsorship	317
Appendix 31: Short-term Visitors: Distribution by Sex	318
Appendix 32: Short-term Visitors: Place of Birth	319
Appendix 33: Short-term Visitors: Last Position in China	320
Appendix 34: Short-term Visitors: Last Unit in China	321
Appendix 35: Short-term Visitors: Last Residence in China	322

CANADIAN ACADEMICS IN CHINA

TABLES

Canadian University Professors

Appendix 36: Years of Arrival in China	323
Appendix 37: Home Institutions in Canada	324
Appendix 38: Fields of Specialization	325
Appendix 39: Home Residence by Specialization	327
Appendix 40: Visits to Chinese Provinces and Municipalities	328

	PAGE
Appendix 41: Primary Purpose of Visits to China	329
Appendix 42: Frequency of Visits to China	330

Canada/China Student Exchange

Appendix 43: Application Success Rate by Year	331
Appendix 44: Institutional Affiliations of Applicants and Participants	332
Appendix 45: Distribution by Sex and by Year of Departure for China	334
Appendix 46: Permanent Residence in Canada	335
Appendix 47: Undergraduate Fields of Study in Canada	336
Appendix 48: Career Plans of Participants	337
Appendix 49: Chinese Language Level upon Arrival in China	338
Appendix 50: Fields of Study in China After Initial Language Training	339
Appendix 51: Chinese Institutions Attended After Graduation from the Beijing Language Institute	340

CHARTS

Appendix 52: Canadian University Professors: Subject Index	341
Appendix 53: Canada/China Student Exchange: Participants by Year of Arrival in China	358
Appendix 54: Québec/China Student Exchange: Participants	359
Appendix 55: Academic Delegations to China	360

AGREEMENTS WITH CHINESE INSTITUTIONS

CHART

Appendix 56: Academic Exchange Agreements Between Canadian Universities and Chinese Institutions	373
--	-----

INTERVIEWS IN CANADA

TABLES

Appendix 57: Breakdown by Institution	376
Appendix 58: Distribution Across Canada	379
Appendix 59: Categories of Subjects	380

PAGE

CHART

Appendix 60:	List of Interview Subjects	381
--------------	----------------------------	-----

RECOMMENDATIONS

CHART

Appendix 61:	Summary of Recommendations	400
--------------	----------------------------	-----

PART I

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

This report focuses on Canadian academic relations with the People's Republic of China since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1970. Relying on extensive interviews with Canadian and Chinese exchange participants and on government and university archival materials, it provides historical, statistical and thematic analysis intended to facilitate our understanding of the current state and future directions of academic exchange activity with China. It also provides profiles of the China exchange activities of most Canadian universities and a series of recommendations for the future.

The need for a report of this magnitude became clear at an April 1982 conference at the University of Regina on "Canadian Universities and China." Convened by the International Development Office of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, this meeting was prompted by a decision from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) to proceed with development assistance for China. Timed to occur just prior to the departure for China of a CIDA delegation to determine development priorities, it provided a first opportunity for Canadian universities to share information on their academic experiences with China.

A major theme that emerged from that meeting, and from a subsequent May meeting in Ottawa, was the need for much more information about Canada/China exchange activities; this would facilitate communication both within the academic community and with government agencies that were becoming increasingly involved in the promotion of academic cooperation between the two countries. The twofold strategy that emerged from these discussions was the need for a background study on Canadian academic relations with China; and the desirability of collecting and disseminating current information on exchange activities, preferably through the International Development Office and its regular newsletter. In June 1982 the International Development Research Centre, which also participated in the May meeting, agreed to fund the background study that has resulted in this report.

Historical Setting

Canadian academic relations with the People's Republic of China began to develop soon after the two countries established diplomatic relations in October 1970. In the fifteen years since 1970 academic exchange activity between Canada and China has evolved

through three phases - beginning in 1973, in 1979 and in 1983 - each of which has resulted from new initiatives of the two governments.

Phase One -- The cornerstone of early academic relations was the official Canada/China Student Exchange. First discussed during the August 1972 visit to China of then Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp, the Exchange began to operate in fall 1973 and quickly became the most regular vehicle for academic contact between the two countries. A Canada/China Professorial Exchange, initiated in 1974 but suspended soon thereafter, was resumed beginning in 1977 primarily as a vehicle to provide Canadian language teachers for China. Other academic contacts in this period were much less formal and less regular. China dispatched a number of "special students" to Canada for non-degree language study beginning in 1975 and a small number of Canadian faculty and students (primarily Canadians of Chinese background) did arrange to visit China privately.

Nevertheless, it appears that outside the formal exchange programs academic contact occurred primarily through the irregular exchange of familiarization delegations (particularly in education, medicine and the sciences); perhaps the most significant of these was a two week visit to China by a delegation of Canadian university presidents in July 1974 and a sixteen day reciprocal visit to Canada by a Chinese higher education delegation in October 1975. Study tours of China arranged by Canadian universities and by the Canada/China Society also facilitated tourist travel to China by a limited number of Canadian professors and students. There were few opportunities for research or formal degree study during this period.

Phase Two -- The shape of Canadian academic relations with China changed dramatically in June 1979 with the conclusion of a broader agreement on educational exchanges and cooperation. The feasibility of accommodating larger numbers of Chinese at Canadian universities was discussed during the October 1978 visit to Canada by a major Chinese education delegation and the reciprocal visit to China by a Canadian delegation in June 1979. It was during the latter visit that agreement was reached on the terms of the Visiting Scholars Program (to bring mid-career Chinese academics to Canada for two years of non-degree advanced study and research, principally in engineering, medicine and the sciences); and on the desirability of exchanging undergraduate and graduate degree students and research scholars, primarily through the conclusion of linkage agreements between universities, colleges and research institutes of the two countries.

The result of this agreement was a dramatic increase in the volume of China exchange activity. The total number of Chinese academic visitors to Canada (perhaps as many as 400 in the period 1970 to 1978) surpassed 2500 by late 1983. While the Visiting Scholars Program accounted for a substantial number of long-term visitors, others enrolled as graduate students in Canadian universities or worked as visiting researchers by arrangement with individual professors; there was a corresponding increase in the number and variety of Chinese academic delegations visiting Canada after 1979. Canadian academic visits to China also increased substantially, with many Canadian professors visiting China to lecture on their specializations (particularly in engineering, medicine and the sciences); or, in a much smaller number of cases, to conduct research or participate in scholarly conferences. Increased contacts between Canadian and Chinese academics appear to have acted as a catalyst to encourage the conclusion of academic exchange agreements between Canadian and Chinese universities; by 1983 twenty-four Canadian universities were involved in negotiation of such agreements which typically facilitated even more exchange activity.

Phase Three -- In the early 1980s the major stumbling block to greater Canadian university involvement with China was lack of funding. A number of institutions negotiated exchange agreements with Chinese universities subject to the availability of appropriate financing. The China initiatives of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the International Development Research Centre and particularly the Canadian International Development Agency have solved many of these funding problems and provided the latest government stimuli to Canada/China exchange activity.

The result - particularly since 1983 - has been a further proliferation of institutional linkages, a sharp rise in the number of Chinese enrolled in Canadian degree programs, increased collaborative research in selected fields and many more Canadians traveling to China as lecturers. Although Canadian access to Chinese universities and research institutes has not increased at a corresponding rate, there are now more opportunities for Canadian scholars and students to pursue advanced study and research in China.

Methodology

This report is based on two types of materials: interviews with those directly involved with Canada/China exchange activities and archival materials relevant to those activities.

These materials were gathered between June 1982 and August 1983 during visits to seventy Canadian institutions and agencies. They were reviewed and organized by a team of research assistants during the summer and fall of 1983. Supplementary material - covering the period through January 1, 1984 - was gathered by telephone during summer 1984.

Since Canadian universities represent a major focus of this research project, every university in Canada was contacted to determine the level of China exchange activity on campus. As a result, and after consultation with the International Development Office of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, on-site visits were made to thirty-eight Canadian universities situated in all ten provinces of Canada. In total 486 interviews were conducted on Canadian university campuses, including 330 with Canadians and 156 with Chinese academic visitors.

A typical visit included interviews with the President of the university and/or other senior administrators; with Canadian professors who had visited China for academic purposes or supervised Chinese academic visitors in Canada; with Canadian students who had studied in China; with relevant university support personnel; and with a representative number of Chinese academic visitors who were on campus at the time of the visit. During these visits substantial amounts of background material (including copies of academic exchange agreements, university press articles on China activities and descriptions of collaborative research and development projects) were gathered. Finally, during each visit efforts were made to verify the status and total number of Chinese academic visitors to the campus since the early 1970s; and to identify those Canadian professors with academic experience in China who could not be interviewed during the visit, but could be contacted later. Following each university visit, those interviewed received letters thanking them for their cooperation and inviting them to submit supplementary information and recommendations.

More than one hundred additional interviews were conducted at other relevant institutions and agencies. During visits to five federal and thirteen provincial government agencies and ministries, efforts were made to speak with the individuals directly involved in the planning, funding or execution of academic exchanges with China; and to collect appropriate documentation and supplementary material. Briefer visits were made to eight community colleges (selected in consultation with the Association of Canadian Community Colleges); to six secondary schools (selected in consultation with the Department of External Affairs); and to five non-governmental organizations active in international education or development activities.

During the same period a major effort was made to establish computerized data banks on Chinese academic visitors to Canada and on Canadian academic visitors to China. Material on Chinese academics in Canada was culled in the first instance from the records of the Department of External Affairs and was subsequently verified with host Canadian institutions and whenever possible with the individuals themselves. Material on Canadian professors with academic experience in China was obtained primarily during on-campus interviews, but also in follow-up telephone interviews and by correspondence. The resulting data banks provide the basis for most of the statistical analysis included in this report.

Finally, a different approach was required to contact former participants in the Canada/China Student Exchange. Information provided by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and by the Department of External Affairs provided the basis for statistical analysis, but it proved difficult to locate and interview a representative sampling of former exchange students. A considerable effort was therefore made to obtain valid addresses for as many participants as possible; and a written evaluation form was circulated to and completed by exchange alumni across Canada and in several other countries. Their responses provide the basis for an evaluation of the official student exchange program.

Structure of the Report

This report consists of three distinct but complementary parts:

"Part I: Findings and Recommendations" provides a three section analysis of Canadian academic relations with China. It focuses first on the experiences of "Chinese Academics in Canada" and then on the experiences of "Canadian Academics in China." Both sections include a "Summary of Statistics" (based primarily on the data banks described earlier); a "Summary of Findings" (based substantially on interviews with Canadian and Chinese exchange participants); and a series of "Recommendations." Part I concludes with an examination of and recommendations pertaining to "Canadian Federal and Provincial Government Agencies and Academic Relations with China."

"Part II: China Profiles of Canadian Universities" provides an analysis of the China exchange activities of twenty-nine Canadian universities. Each institutional profile begins with a brief statistical introduction (derived in large part from the Association